

E1-396 CD

LANCASTER COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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HOWARD "PETE" SHAUB, Vice-Chairman

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TIMOTHEA M. KIRCHNER

County Administrator

TERRY L. STYER

Chief Clerk

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County Solicitor

November 20, 2003

Dear Mr. Brady:

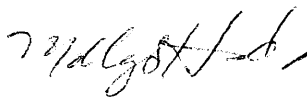
Speaking on behalf of Lancaster County's newly elected County Commissioners' Team, I would like to express our interest in converting the Rail Line into a trail or other contiguous function that would benefit the local municipalities and all the residents of Lancaster County. Lancaster County is offering to partner with the municipalities, Southern End Community Association (SECA) or other groups to share ownership or to accept ownership of the rail line as a County park.

We are offering to establish a task force with representatives of adjacent municipalities to develop a detailed project budget. This could include conversion to another use, ongoing operational costs and maintenance costs. In addition we would seek to secure funding sources both public and private to fund the project in phases or in whole.

We are requesting adequate time to develop and study these budget options. We look forward to working with you and the municipalities in the future.

We believe a Rails to Trails project could be a unique opportunity to preserve natural resources and historically significant structures as well as provide recreational and economic development opportunities to all of Lancaster County.

Sincerely,



Molly S. Henderson
Commissioner Elect



Dick Shellenberger
Commissioner Elect



Howard "Pete" Shaub
Vice Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

